

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAR ES 02953 250945Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 /099 W
-----063018 250955Z /10

P 250730Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5689

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2953

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, ECIN, TZ, KE, UG

SUBJECT: FUTURE OF US AID PROGRAM TO EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

REF: (A) NAIROBI 8428, DAR ES SALAAM 2710 AND PREVIOUS

(B) DAR ES SALAAM 1718 AND NAIROBI 5036

(C) DAR ES SALAAM 1368 AND NAIROBI 4175

1. SITUATION. THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC) HAS DISINTEGRATED TO THE POINT WHERE IT MAY BE ABLE TO CARRY ON IN NAME ONLY. KENYA HAS DECIDED NOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EAC'S FY 78 (JULY 1-JUNE 30) BUDGET AND HAS WITHDRAWN ITS CITIZENS FROM EAC OFFICES IN TANZANIA AND UGANDA. TANZANIA AND UGANDA HAVE SO FAR BEEN UNABLE TO AGREE ON AN INTERIM BUDGET TO KEEP PART OF THE EAC IN OPERATION AND THE PROSPECTS FOR SUCH AGREEMENT ARE POOR (SEE REF A). IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT TANZANIA WILL END UP FOR A TIME AS THE EAC'S SOLE ACTIVE MEMBER, SUSTAINING IT LARGELY AS A SHELL WITH A TOKEN BUDGET. TANZANIA IS IN A GOOD POSITION TO DO THIS UNILATERALLY AS EAC HEADQUARTERS ARE ON TANZANIAN SOIL. THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT TANZANIAN PLACES GREAT STOCK IN THE SURVIVAL OF THE EAC AND WOULD BE MORE THAN WILLING TO CARRY THE COMMUNITY ALONE UNTIL BETTER DAYS DAWN FOR COOPERATION AMONG EAST AFRICAN COUNTRIES (REF B). TANZANIA'S
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 DAR ES 02953 250945Z

DEDICATION TO PRESERVING THE EAC IS SUCH THAT IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY DISADVANTAGEOUS TO CLOSE COMPLETELY THE US REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE FOR EAST AFRICA (RDOEA) WHILE TANZANIA WAS TRYING TO KEEP THE EAC ALIVE, EVEN AS A FICTION.

2. OBJECTIVES. OUR PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE IS TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION. WE BELIEVE THE

REVIVAL OF THE EAC IN THE LONG RUN AS A RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION IS A DISTINCT POSSIBILITY AND WE WOULD WANT TO BE IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE SUPPORT SHOULD THAT OCCUR. WE ALSO WISH TO AVOID PUTTING THE USG AT A POLITICAL DISADVANTAGE WITH THE TANGOV BY CLOSURE OF RDOEA WHILE TANZANIA IS STRUGGLING TO KEEP THE EAC ALIVE. AT THE SAME TIME THE AID PROGRAM TO THE EAC MUST REFLECT THE REALITIES OF THE ENVIRONMENT. THUS, WE WANT TO ELIMINATE THE OVERHEAD COSTS OF RDOEA AND INSURE THAT AID STAFF AND FUNDS ARE MANAGED EFFECTIVELY (SEE REF C).

3. RECOMMENDED ACTION PACKAGE. WE BELIEVE OBJECTIVES CAN BEST BE REALIZED BY RETAINING A SHELL RDOEA WHICH WOULD INVOLVE NO OVERHEAD COSTS OR STAFF. TO ACCOMPLISH THE TRANSITION AS EFFICIENTLY AS POSSIBLE, WE PROPOSE TO:

A. APPOINT VERNON JOHNSON, DIRECTOR USAID/T, TO ASSUME ALL DUTIES HERETOFORE PERFORMED BY THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER FOR EAST AFRICA. FOR BALANCE US FY 77, JOHNSON WILL RELEASE AUTHORITY THOSE RDOEA PROJECT ACTIVITIES LOCATED KENYA TO USAID/K. AS ACTING RDO, HE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR US-FUNDED ACTIVITIES IN TANZANIA WHICH ARE ASCRIBED TO THE EAC.

B. TRANSFER ALL PHYSICAL ASSETS OF RDOEA LOCATED IN ARUSHA TO USAID/T AND CONTINUE RDOEA MOB THROUGH FY 77.

C. TRANSFER ALL PROJECT MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DAR ES 02953 250945Z

THOSE PORTIONS RDOEA PROJECTS LOCATED KENYA TO USAID/K. THOSE PORTIONS IN TANZANIA WILL BE HANDLED BY ACTING RDO JOHNSON. ALL PRESENT PROJECT DOCUMENTATION TO CONTINUE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1977. NEW BILATERAL WILL BE NEGOTIATED BY USAID/K FOR ALL RDOEA PROJECT ACTIVITIES LOCATED KENYA, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1977.

D. MAKE AVAILABLE FOR DIRECT TRANSFER RDOEA EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT MARY VISZNEKI NLT SEPTEMBER 30, 1977. RDOEA FOREIGN NATIONAL EMPLOYEES WILL BE ABSORBED USAID/T EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1977.

4. REQUEST STATE/AID APPROVAL ASAP. WE INTEND FINALIZE ACTIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE BY AUGUST 23, 1977 -- DATE OF CURRENT ACTING RDO RAMSAY'S DEPARTURE FROM EAST AFRICA FOR RETIREMENT.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 25-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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